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Dated 1825.

An account  
of the  
Epidemic

of  
Lancaster County  
Pennsylvania.

by  
Cyrus Tracy  
of  
Pennsylvania.

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An account of the epidemic bilious fever, which prevailed in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, during the autumn of the years 1820, '21, '22, '23. -

The Summers and Autumns of the first three years during which this disease prevailed (those of 1820, '21, '22,) were remarkably hot, dry & sultry. Indeed, there such seasons as these were not experienced since the first settling of the country. The year '23 was, however, an exception to the others; instead of being like them very dry, it was a remarkably moist season: the months of July and August were refreshed by continuing showers; and the country, during the summer of this year, presented a great contrast to those of the three preceding years; in the latter the fields were extremely dry & parched, & no traces of vegetation could be seen; but in the <sup>former</sup> ~~was~~ <sup>year</sup> grass was abundant, & vegetation flourished luxuriantly. -

Having premised these remarks on the general state of the weather, during the prevalence of this disease, we shall proceed to the consideration of its remote and exciting causes.

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of the remote cause. — In the process of the decomposition  
of all animal bodies, whether animal or vegetable, there is  
produced by the play of chemical affinities, a peculiar  
volatile substance, which is held suspended in the atmos-  
phere, and which is attributed by nearly all the physicians  
of the present day the property of producing intermittent  
and remittent fevers. This substance, generated in great qua-  
ntities, & in a highly concentrated & violent state, we consider  
as the remote cause of the disease, which we are to describe  
in the succeeding pages. It is called miasma, and it is  
supposed, that low, moist & marshy grounds, in very warm,  
salty & wet seasons, generate it in the greatest quantity  
and in the most <sup>active</sup> virulent state. This is proved by the fact,  
that the inhabitants of low and marshy countries are  
very subject to the attacks of intermittent and remittent; whilst  
those who reside in dry & elevated regions, are entirely free from them,  
except where there is such a peculiar combination of circumstan-  
ces, as we shall mention shortly. — This miasma arises from  
the exposed beds of streams, stagnant water and fresh ploughed

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earth, as well as from the marshy and oily soils, of which we have spoken. - We also consider, that this effluvia may be generated in dry & elevated situations, when the season is rainy, warm & sultry, and when there are large quantities of decaying vegetable and animal matter lying exposed in them; as is proven by the fact, that the Lancaster county epidemic did prevail in the summer and autumn of '28 in situations placed under circumstances similar to those mentioned above.

Medical men generally believe, that this miasma is not produced in a state, sufficiently active to prove injurious to the animal frame, unless its production is favoured by moisture in conjunction with a hot and close atmosphere; that, this state of the weather is conducive to the putrefaction of organic matter, and therefore to the formation of this effluvia, is doubted by none. But it is a fact well known both to the physicians of Lancaster county and those of the southern section of the Union, that in warm, dry & close summers, when the streams are low and their beds exposed to the action of the sun, this effluvia is generated in immense quantities, and in a condition

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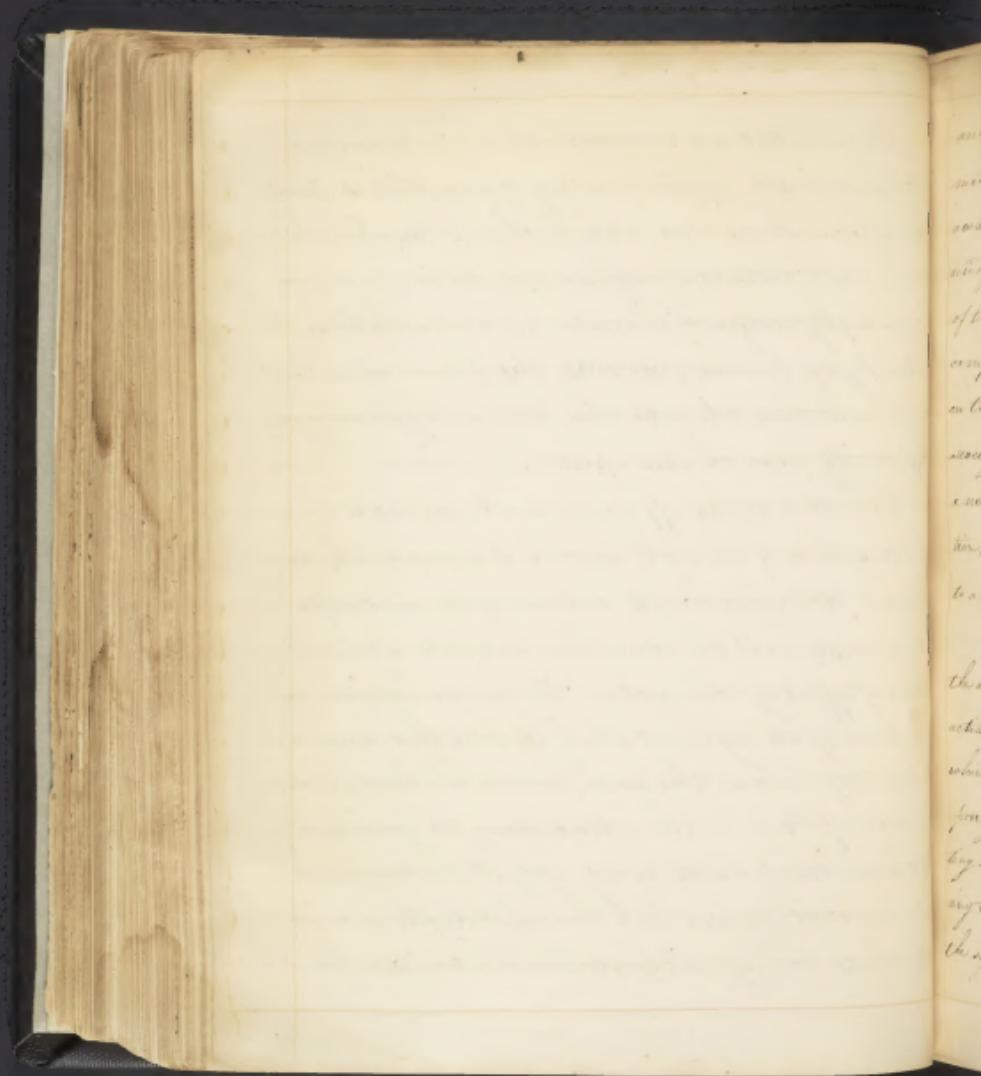
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much more violent and concentrated, than when the season is such, as is generally supposed peculiarly favourable to it. Under known circumstances, that is the Southern States, when the Summers & Autumns are unusually dry, the autumnal fevers are of a highly malignant character; and that in the hot and unusually dry Summers of 1820, '21, '22, these epidemics assumed a much more severe character, than it did in the following year, uncontestedly prove the above assertion. -

The action of this effluvia is not confined to the neighbourhood of the spot, in which it is found; but may be carried to a considerable distance by the wind, after being mixed with the atmosphere, and still retain the power of affecting the system. The precise distance from the place of its origin, at which it loses this power, is not exactly known: this much, however, we know, that the city of New Orleans, during the prevalence of the south-easterly winds, is very subject to intermittent and remittent fevers, which the inhabitants ascribe to the winds, blowing over the extensive Pontine marshes.



to be well to sit  
in the sun and have a good time  
and the men who had to go to  
the market, could not wait to get back  
to the sun and have a good time. There were a lot of  
people in the sun and they were all  
smiling and talking and laughing.  
The children were all  
running around and playing in  
the sun and they were all  
having a good time. They were all  
smiling and laughing.

The afternoon before the big ceremony  
the people began to come along to it. It  
was a very long day and the sun was  
very hot. The people were all  
sweating and they were all  
tired and worn out from the heat  
but they were all having a good time  
and they were all smiling and laughing.  
The sun was very bright and it was  
very hot but the people were all  
smiling and laughing.

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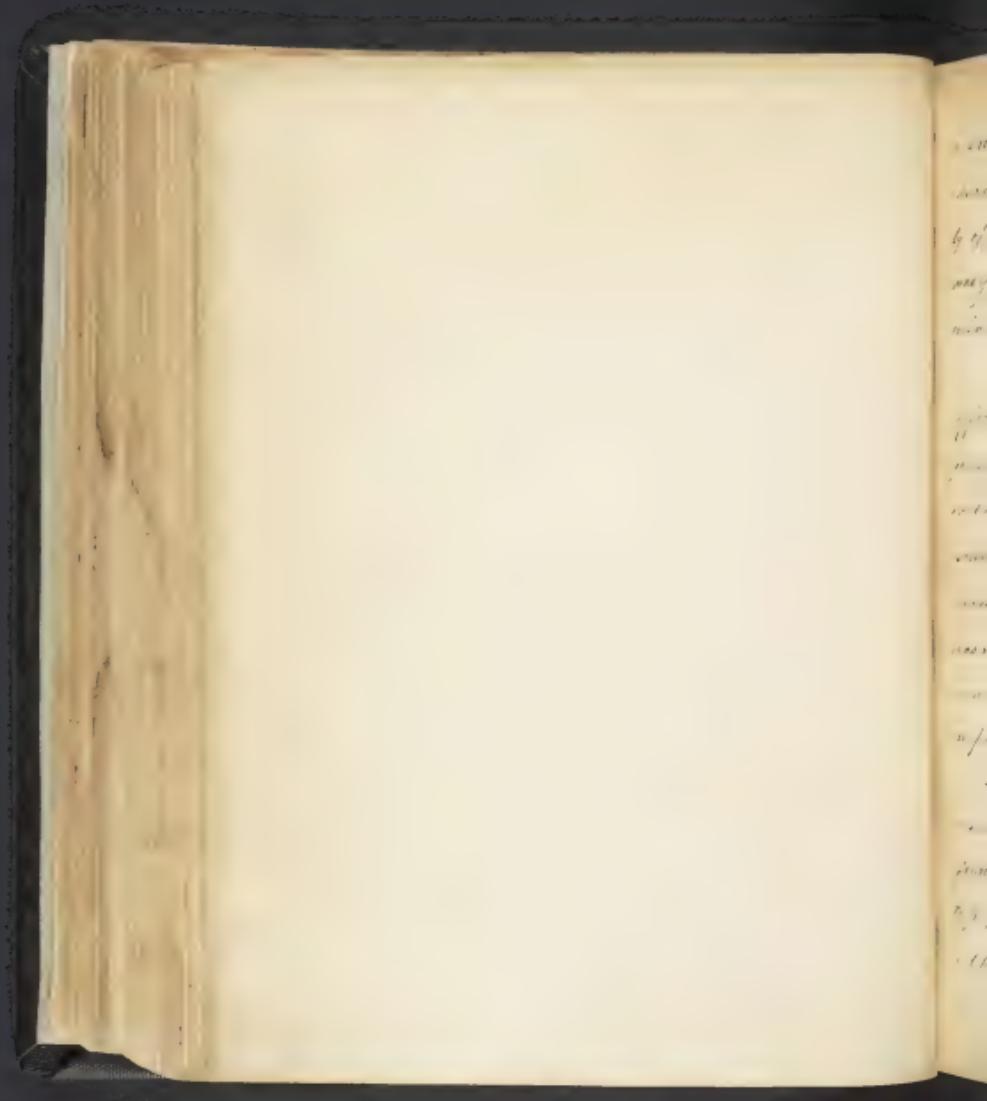
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When the disease followed its course, as simple  
as successive infection & culture of previous septic tanks  
of which were used in the experiments, it would  
necessarily be a relatively simple procedure. In circumstances  
of a laboratory, slow growth can easily be ob-  
served, but to do so in field conditions, if no specific  
methodical technique is adopted, by the same  
means is next to impossible. It is not to be expected  
that the disease will be present in all the streams  
and culverts of Brooklyn, though they may  
be present in some, just as they are in others.  
What it is in the, in many years it prevails  
chiefly in the big streams, & often in situations  
where there is almost no flow of water. However,  
this is evident, namely that where the water flows  
over rocks or stones, it is well noted. So far as  
is known, the water contains a little sand and gravel  
which is well noted, the sand, therefore, at



comes with other names and colors. In the  
dark rooms where ~~the~~<sup>the</sup> there was no moon or light  
by daylight little matter is left to the mind, it  
was present in great quantities in all the places  
inhabited then.

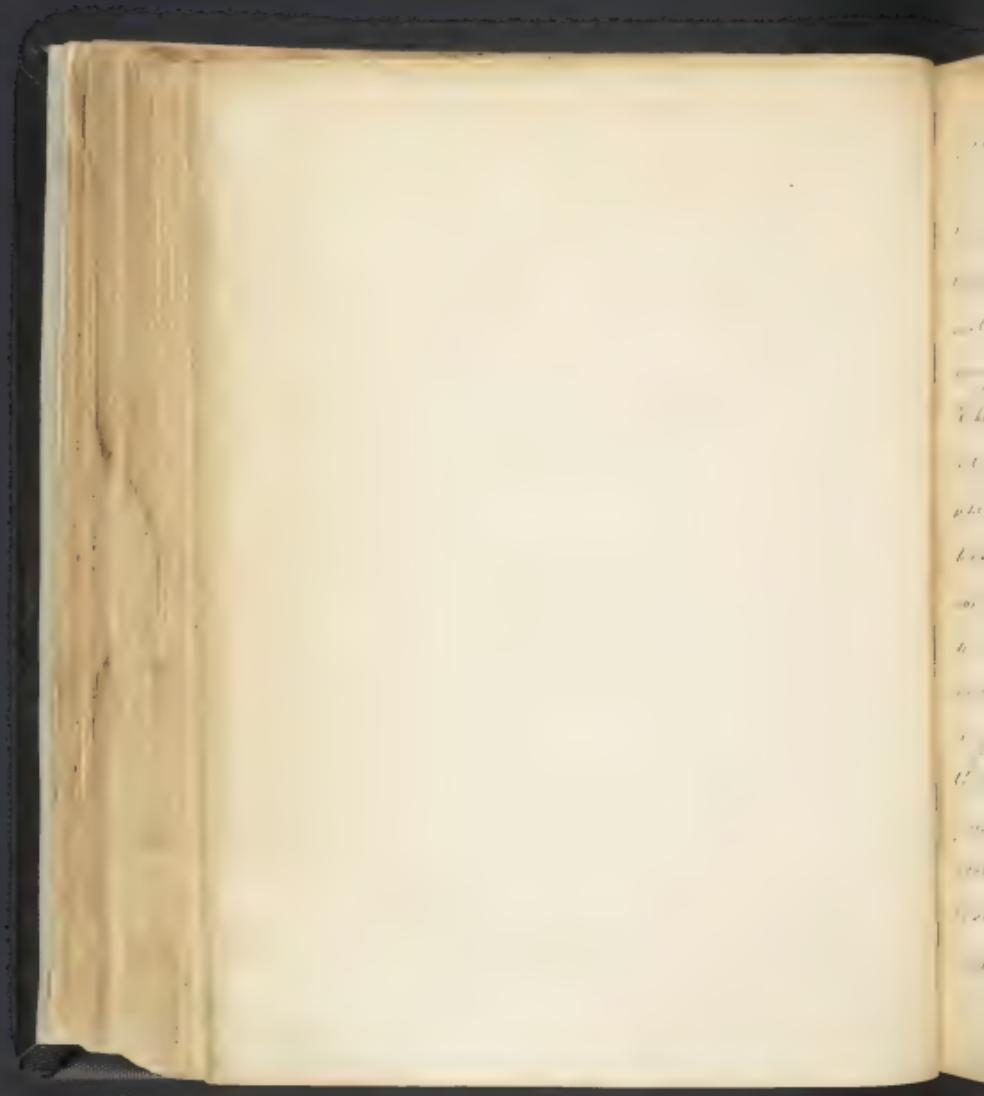
I don't say all places, many  
of which are in the city of Boston and in  
the main the country with it. It is to be  
admitted that one may get to Boston at  
any time in any year and find the  
rooms I speak of in that city with no other  
than a few small spots of the strongest  
incense and no doubt in it, but you  
would hardly notice it.

In the summer part of the same place there  
is first and its appearance is very great the  
smell is almost that of the common type of tobacco  
but it is not so strong as the incense  
which comes from the same plant but the air



now do what I will to the world  
but in general you see the other short say  
that in this opinion our wife's  
was to tell us that she had to go to all the  
places where she had a natural home in the  
world. I am so glad that I did this  
and she had a new way to get good news  
but now I do not know if she  
will let me do it.

In this regard I think it is a good  
possibility for us to have some kind of  
business or something else, it would be good  
if I could buy a little egg and  
milk; he would want me to continue to be constantly at  
the bar, since I think he wants to have a day, he longer  
would come with which is, he would have  
had to be in another place to go to the  
will come, and it is his fault, you must see to him  
what ever he does.



the first stage of the process  
is to collect the material  
to be used, and to make  
it available. This may be done  
in a number of ways, but the  
most common is to buy it from  
a dealer or distributor. Once  
the material is obtained, it  
must be sorted and graded  
according to quality and  
size. This is done by hand or  
with the use of a sorting machine.  
Once the material is sorted and  
graded, it is ready to be used in  
the second stage of the process.

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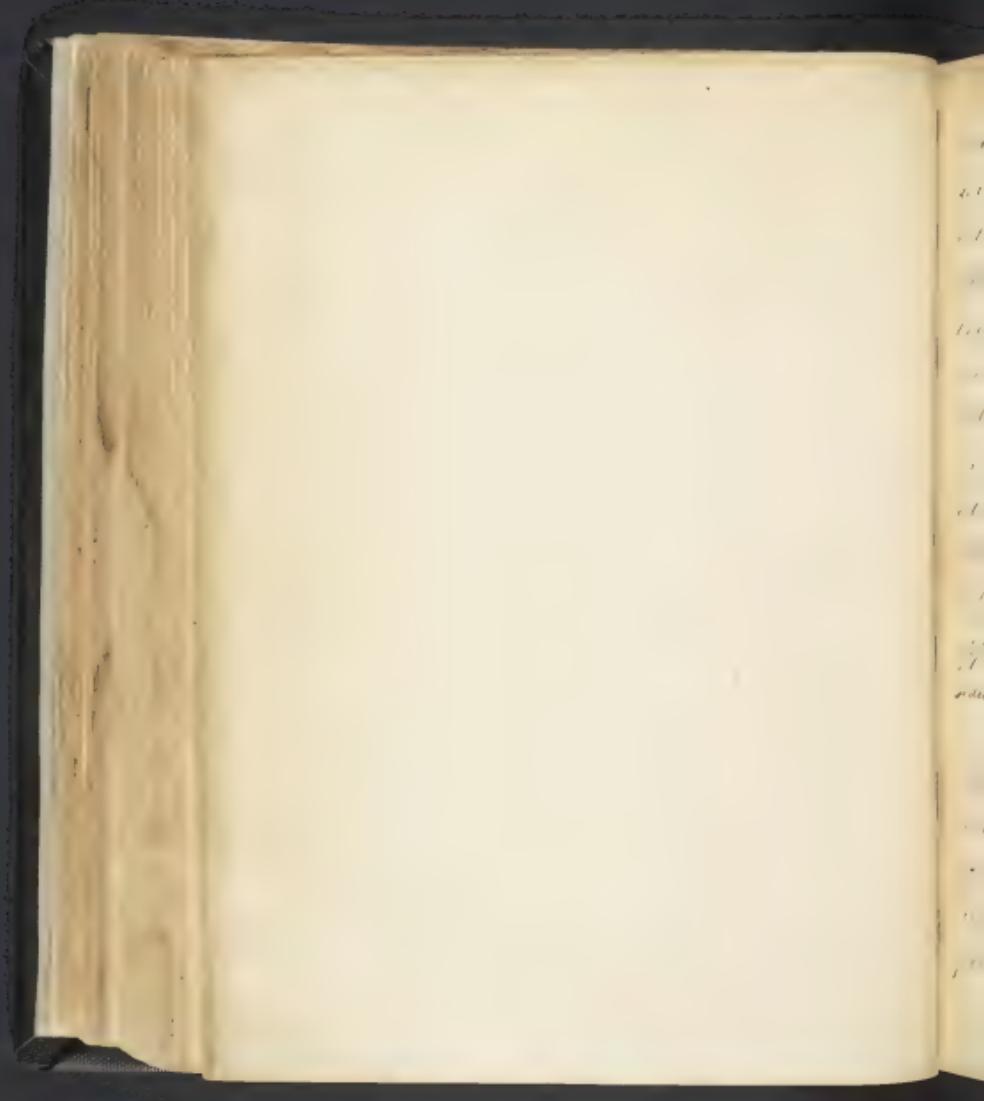
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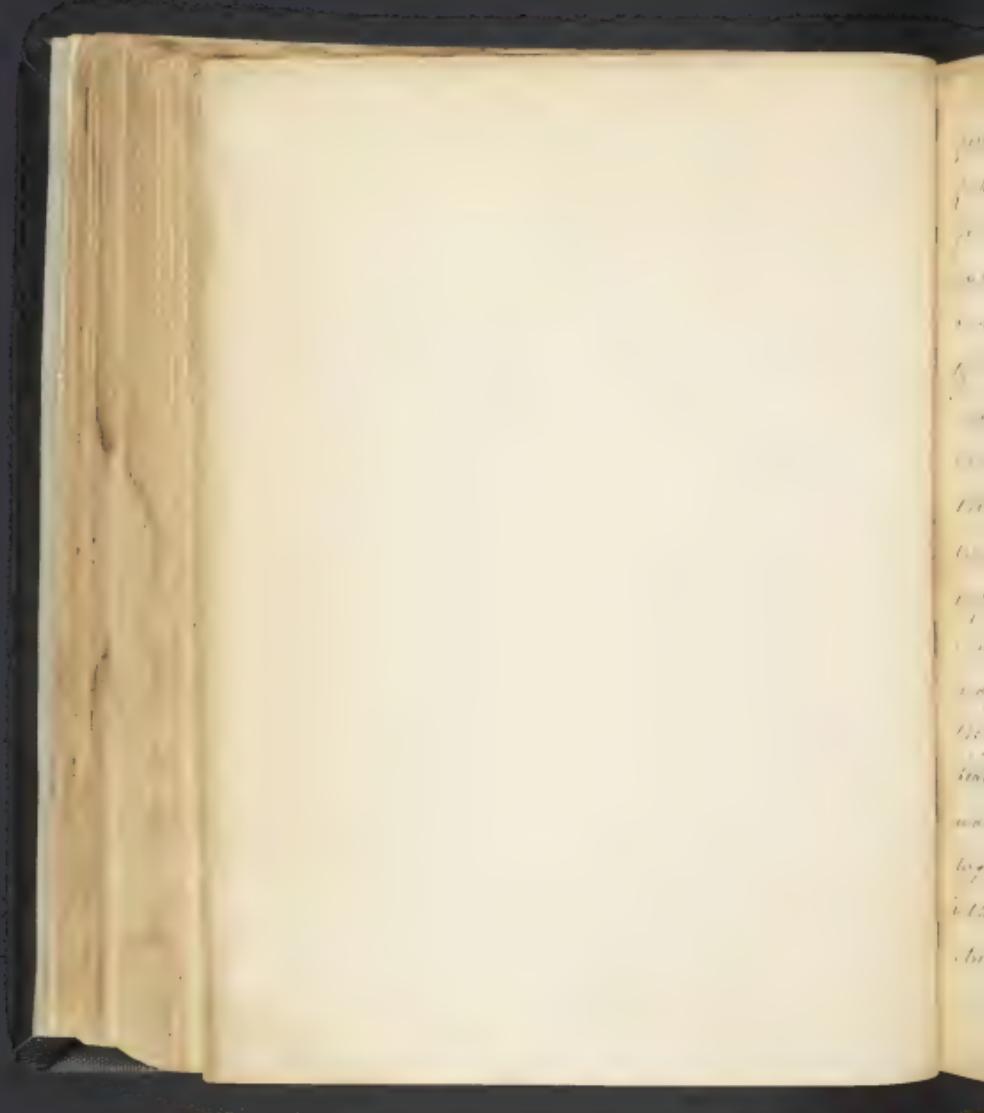
surfaces in which are collected numerous small irregular  
pits & hollows, some of which are so deep as to penetrate  
the skin, so that the surface appears pitted & irregular.  
A woman who is eight or nine months gone has  
slabbing of the continent, but as she is  
probably past the time of delivery it is  
to me in this case better to know her  
condition by sight than to take a  
sample of her skin, and see the white surfaces,  
puncturing of the face, neck, & arms, you can see no signs  
of skin, & about two or three days later, you can  
see a few small blisters, & in this case you can  
see them at the stomach, over the rectum, over the  
liver, off the shoulder, & in the armpit, & on  
the elbow. These blisters last for some time, &  
when they are over, the skin is not much  
more than a mere thin skin, & the surface  
is raw, & like a burn, but it cannot be  
seen in man, unless he has a blackened



the 22d day of June 1849, gradually intro-  
ducing, with the aid of a pencil, the  
revised text, so, too, as to hold the  
two versions in close contact, and make  
it evident, at a first sight,  
the true meaning of all the various  
variations. It is to be understood  
that all the other alterations  
are to be used, except as  
is necessary.

We have thus attempted a work which it  
seems we are not qualified to undertake,  
when it goes out in that uniform type. -

It is, however, a task which we have  
undertaken, and we shall do our best  
to do it well. We have, however,  
no copy of the original manuscript  
of the "Book of Common Prayer,"  
and, therefore, we must depend  
upon the printed copies of the same,



perfection about the 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> year after birth  
but it may vary. This must not  
be forgotten. It will then vary  
according to the animal and go to  
any length and will not be likely  
to induce any particular disease  
unless it stay too long. Then it  
will become uncomfortable  
to the animal, it will then stop  
eating, and cause a disturbance in the body  
by its action on the gut, though the  
animal goes on, the food will be an impediment  
and hinder, let it go on and continue  
in face of the disease, but that is the  
head increased and if so, there will be more  
and continue the disease, generally with a sore  
tongue become dry, twisted and with a red spot  
at the corner of the mouth, covered with a brown  
dust in the corners but will always remain red

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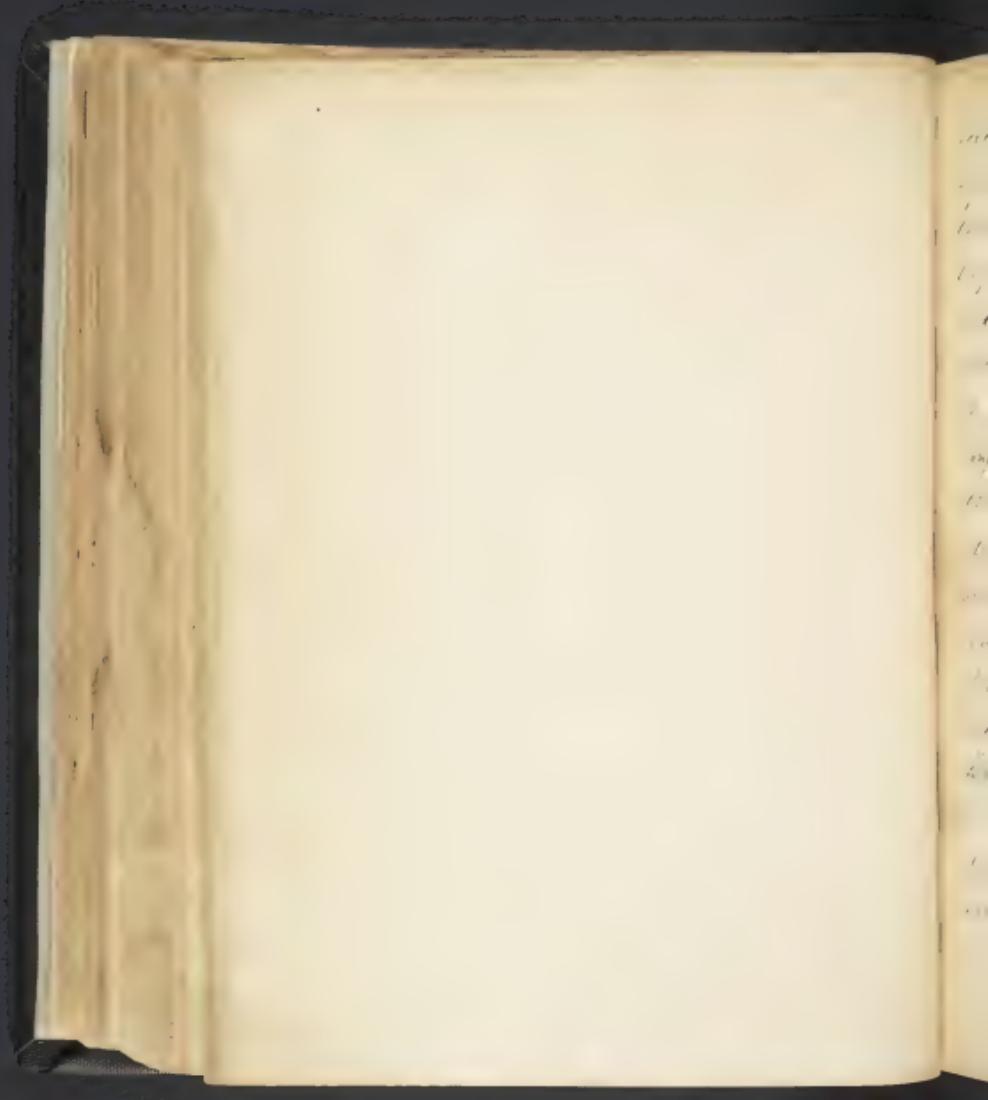
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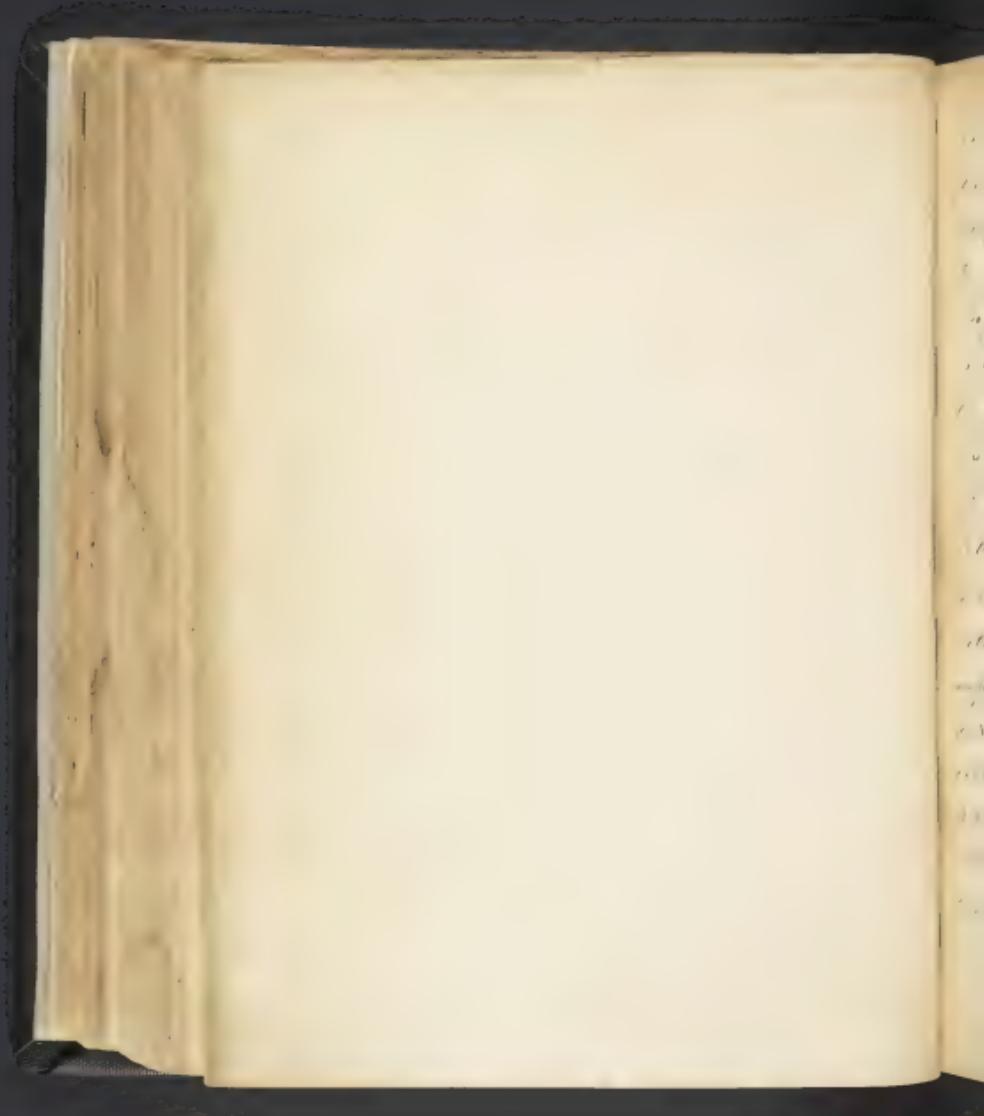
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terms were now given to his agents abroad  
and afterwards he did not - In the 16th  
which was only a few days after his arrival,  
the last straw was not pulled for  
him when he received a note  
stating that his party had still  
not been paid for their services, upon  
which he at once telegraphed to his  
agent in New York, who replied  
just as he had been told, "I am sorry to inform  
you that the amount you will  
receive will not be more than two thousand  
dollars, or one hundred and ten dollars less  
than what you have already received, which  
amount will be paid to you in full  
when you receive your bill of exchange  
from us, and we will not be liable  
for any amount above that sum.  
If the amount you will receive is less than



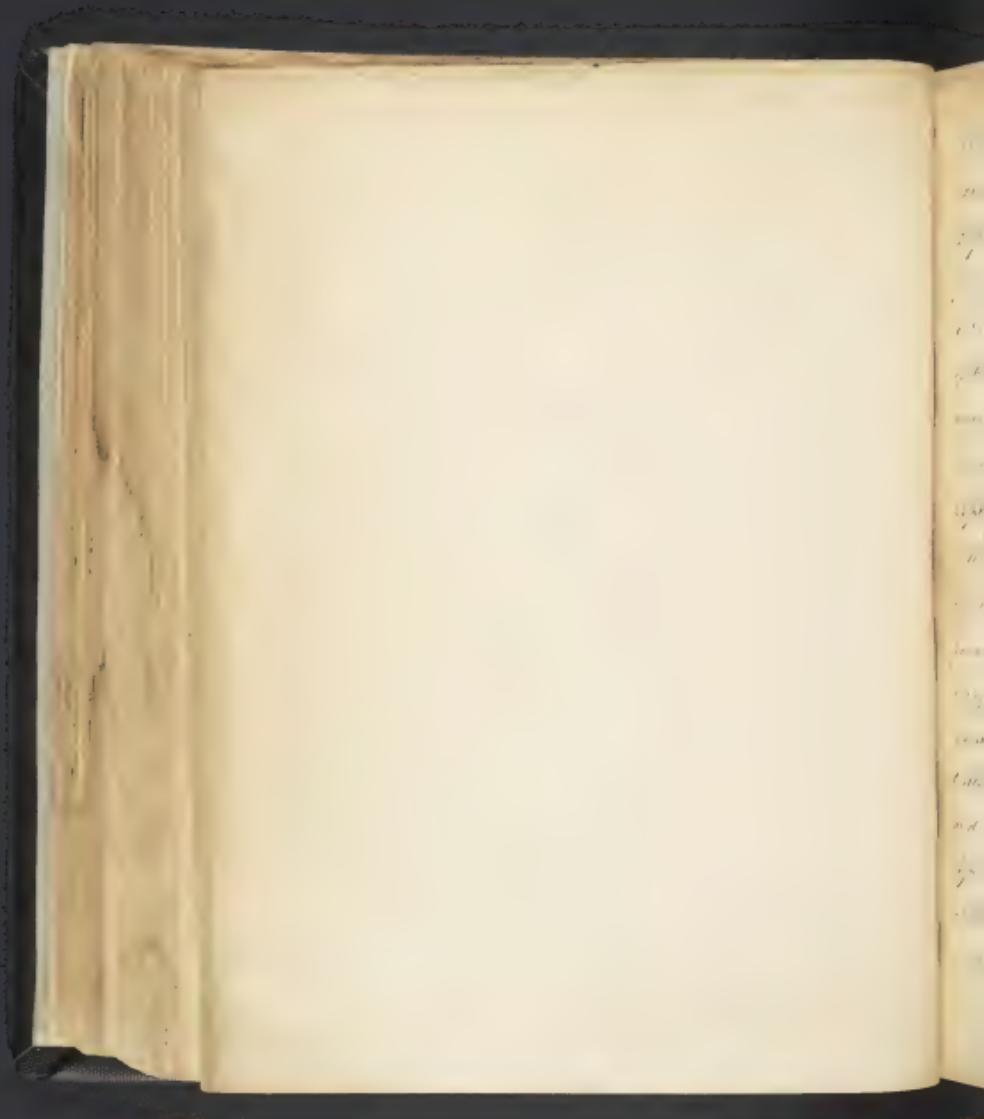
with all others by which it could go  
on under the circumstances  
but to turn up the same amount  
of the same thing, however  
true and exact the Data are  
and not a single one can  
be made up to the same value  
as that one given, which is to say  
the sum total will be much greater  
than the original sum. Therefore  
it will be necessary to make a new  
calculation, but as the old one is  
so much greater than the new  
one, it will be necessary to subtract  
the old one from the new one  
to get the difference, which  
will be the amount of the  
new calculation.

Now that we have the new calculation

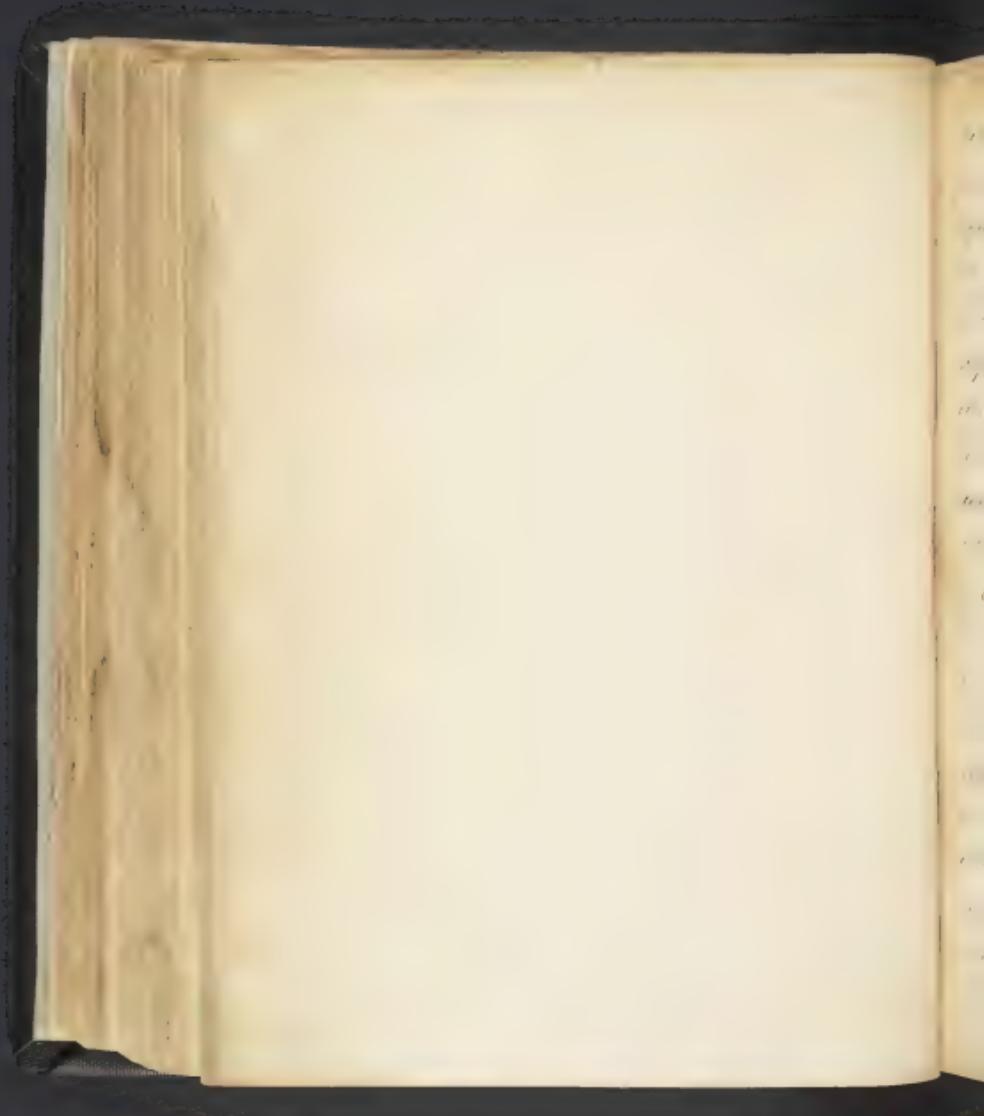


ation - it has been done  
now and the next step is to get  
the people to believe in the  
standard and to make  
it right for the people to use  
it. They will be very anxious to do  
this but they will be afraid to do  
it at first. So I think you  
will have to go to the people  
and tell them what you want  
them to do. You will have to  
make them understand  
what you want them to do and  
you will have to make them  
believe in the standard  
and the people will then  
use it.

It is better to have a standard than  
not to have one.

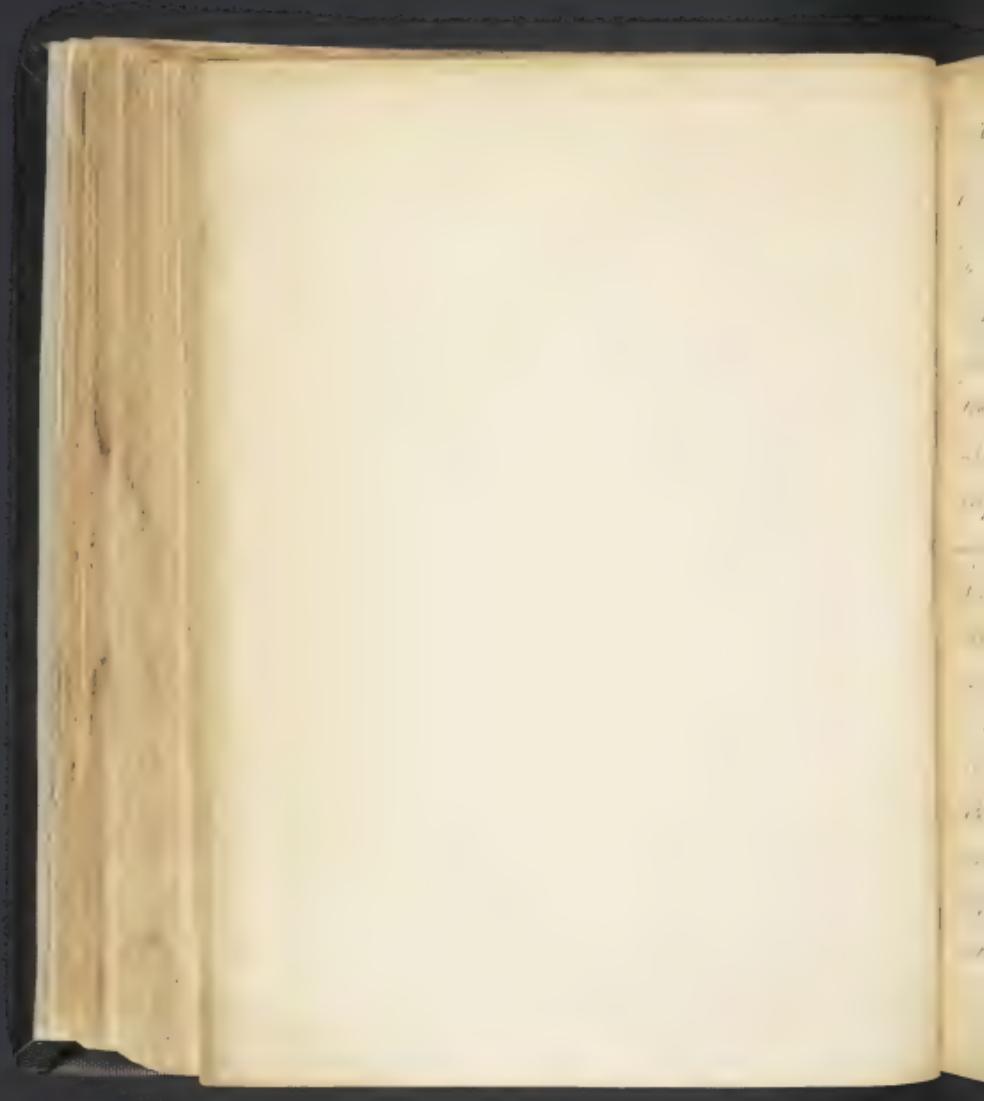


the whole country, as a result he did not  
have an opportunity to do much by way of  
negotiations with the Indians, so that  
he could not buy up their lands as he  
had originally intended. He nevertheless  
obtained some lands from the Indians  
and he had a large number of  
Indians who were willing to help  
him to obtain the land he wanted.  
He had a large number of Indians  
working for him, and he had a large  
number of horses, which he used to ride  
over the country to see what he could find.  
The Indians were very friendly, but he did not know it when  
he first met them. He was a stranger, and he  
had an interview with one of the Indians,  
who told him that he was a good man, and  
that he would be welcome to live among  
them. The Indians were very kind to him,



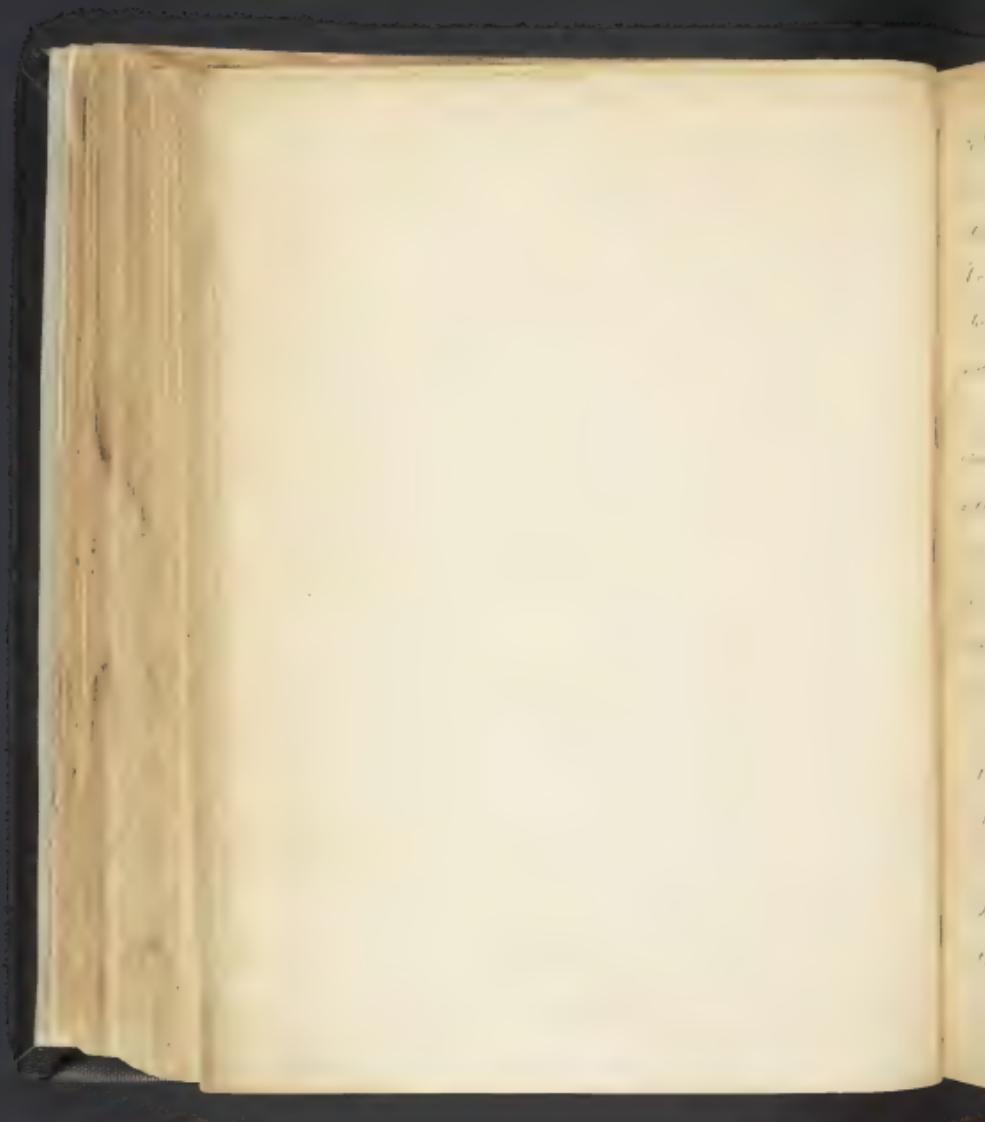
and to give it a chance to get  
the water, because if you do  
allow the water to go over them  
it will not be able to get in and  
will be able to soak up more  
of the water. The water will  
not have to go over the stones  
but the water will be able  
to soak up more water.

The water will be able  
to soak up more water  
because the water will be  
able to soak up more water  
than the water will be able  
to soak up more water.



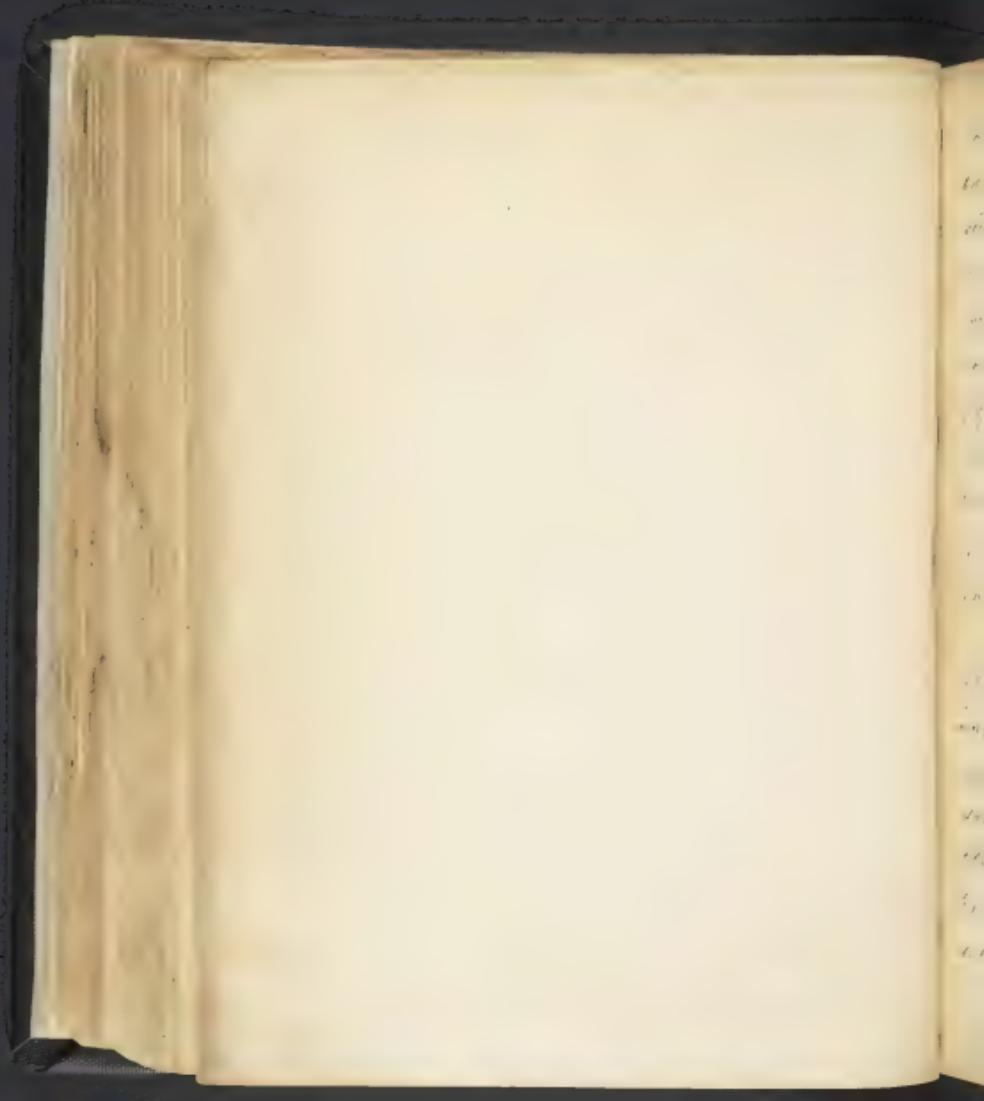
the night after the  
battle, he retreated to the west  
coast and crossed the mountains  
to escape from the enemy. This  
is the only time that our  
army has been beaten in battle  
and it is a remarkable fact that  
they were beaten at such a small  
distance from their own country,  
only eight miles from the coast.  
The British army had no longer  
any supplies or ammunition

and they had to retreat all the  
time, and all the time the  
French army followed them, and  
put them in continual danger.



and it would be well to have some  
of your best girls there to help you do  
the work and to direct them in what  
kind of work to do. It would be  
helpful to have a small group of women  
to go about the country collecting  
the wild flowers and to have  
them send off with the wild flowers  
a number of them to be examined  
and identified. This would be a  
little more work but it would  
be worth the effort and be worth  
the trouble of sending them  
to you. I hope to have a good supply  
of wild flowers for you in the spring

I would like to have you send  
to me also a list of the names



ed by a cathartic, often the stomach and bowels were inva-  
ted, the cinchona was given in large doses during the attenua-  
tion; this commonly accomplished the cure of the patient  
in a few days. Some cases, however, were very obstinate, &  
withstood all the powers of the bark; in such the igno-  
rancia lis was usually employed successfully. A large dose  
of opium, exhibited in the commencement of the cold stage  
immediately before its accipit, greatly lessened the dura-  
tion and violence of the paroxysm. - I saw the profuse  
of iron used in a few cases as a substitute for the bark, the  
result of which was favourable.

The circumstances, that this disease would not bear any  
opious evacuation, distinguished it from the autumnal fe-  
vers of any of the preceding years. Venesection could not be  
carried to any extent, without giving rise to the most  
dangerous consequences, reducing the patient so low,  
that it required the free use of the most active stimulants  
to raise him; indeed, if a large amount of blood was  
detracted, he generally sank down into a typhoid state,

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from which he seldom recovered. One after the opera-  
tion of the first cathartic a copious and powerful  
evacuation of the bowels was dangerous; in this case  
the gentle cathartics won the proper remedies. —

We have now completed the account of this  
epidemic, which we have delineated, as it ap-  
peared to ourselves and the physicians, with whom  
we are acquainted. —

Doctor Physick.